

"SEE EUROPE IF YOU WILL, BUT SEE AMERICA FIRST"

# TRUTH

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## GIVE THE TAXPAYERS A CHANCE

Before election the political parties who are striving for supremacy almost invariably make "big talks" about the extravagance of those in power and with all the appearances of honesty and sincerity pledge themselves to economize and reform. The present city administration is no exception to the rule. Its press organ and individual claquers denounced, both before and after the election, and with a great deal of justice, too, the extravagance and maladministration of those who preceded them in office. They promised sweeping reforms, their organ told of the excrescences which the new people had cut off immediately after they had assumed office and of the delectable way the affairs of the city would in the future be conducted.

All this appears to have been mere clap trap to deceive the public. In the matter of economy or anything in that direction, the present municipal administration has already demonstrated that it is a failure. Extravagant and wasteful as the former city government was this one gives unmistakable evidences of being worse. Expenses are being increased in every direction without any reason except to provide lucrative places for the friends of the administration. The employees of the city have been made to exceed in numbers those ever before employed at this season of the year, while the clerical forces have either been increased without cause or are in process of being increased. Additional "help" has been "secured" or is being applied for in nearly all the departments without any extra work to do. The city health officer has been given an assistant, who will do all the work, the duties of his chief being reduced to merely drawing his salary. The city auditor has applied for and no doubt will be given an extra clerk. The recorder wants a clerk for the Juvenile court, whose duties can be performed in about two hours a week, but who will draw a salary on a full time schedule. So it goes through all the departments. The taxpayers are already overburdened, but whereas their former masters have

chastized them with whips their present masters chastize them with scorpions, and why shouldn't they when the taxpayer is so foolish as to be deceived by every fake party and foolish cry that comes along. Give the taxpayer a chance. Yes, give him a chance, but the chances are he won't seize the chance. Taxes are already ruinously high, but if those who pay the taxes want it that way, by all means let them have it.

The "American" party is laying its plans for the election next fall. They will make a supreme effort to capture the county offices, for the money there is in them and will also direct their strength to elect as many members to the legislature as possible for the especial benefit of ex-Senator Kearns who is very anxious to have the prefix, of ex, eliminated. They are now calculating on carrying Salt Lake, Weber and Summit counties and enough others to give them at least eighteen members, which would enable them to control the caucus of either the Republicans or Democrats, whichever may be in the majority in the legislature. Having control of the municipal government they, with the methods they employ, will have a big leverage in this county in the next election.

Every department in the city is being filled with henchmen of the "American" party who are expected to and doubtless will use the prestige and influence of the offices they hold in furtherance of Mr. Kearns' ambition and the success of the "American" party. The policy of the present city administration is to fill every position from street sweeper up with men who can be depended upon to work to that end. The mayor has had little to say regarding the personnel of his appointments. The city committee of the "American" party considers the claims of applicants for places and makes its wishes known to the mayor who so far has not dared to do otherwise than be guided by the "recommendations" of the committee. A number of the appointments the

mayor made were directly contrary to his own inclinations, notably in the case of the fire chief. The mayor has made a feeble remonstrance in the case of superintendent of waterworks. His idea, and from the point of view of the best interest of the city it is a very correct idea, is to keep Mr. Hines in that position, because he is more competent to fill it than any other man in the city, but the "American" city committee thinks Mr. Hines is not completely enough imbued with the spirit of the "American" party and for that reason the committee is urging the removal of Mr. Hines and the appointment of another person. It is generally believed that although Mr. Hines is holding on by the grace of the mayor he will be removed.

### PEET WORRIES THE TRIBUNE.

Editor Truth:

When a newspaper will get in the position of a drowning man that it will grab at a straw it shows the low ebb of usefulness at which it has arrived, and the great difficulty it has to keep its head above water with its editorials, its news and its subscription list. The Salt Lake Tribune has reached that point. The Tribune is imitating Charles Mostyn Owen, who hangs around a polygamist home for weeks at a time waiting for the stork to appear, so he can ridicule and proclaim to the world. Since last October I have had upwards of two score of interviews in the big eastern papers on Bear River valley in particular and Utah and Salt Lake City in general. These interviews have in each and every case exposed a gang of traitors who for graft or revenge have told gross falsehoods to injure this state. The Tribune has watched those interviews very closely, and on February 1st, it thought it saw a straw it could grab. In all the interviews I have had it thought it saw four and a half lines in a long interview in the Chicago Chronicle of January 23 it could misconstrue and make an editorial about. The Tribune has no use for the Manufacturers and Merchants' association, or anything else that is helping to upbuild Utah. It thought it saw an opportunity to work politics or religion or something else into that association that would cause dissention or a partisan fight that would destroy its useful-

ness. The heading of the editorial above referred to is "Peet and Polygamy." That word polygamy has not only been the keystone but the alpha and omega of the Tribune for the past three years. The editor and owners of the Tribune have not only had polygamy for breakfast, dinner and supper, but they have indulged in it at night. They have fed it to their readers six days in the week and then given them a double dose on Sundays. If it had not been for polygamy the Tribune would have been as scarce of reading matter as ballet dancers are of clothes and the editorial page would have looked like a bald head in the front row. There has been ten times as much polygamy in the Tribune in the past three years as there has been in Utah since July 24th, 1847. If it hadn't been for polygamy there wouldn't be any Frank Cannon to edit the Tribune, and Brother Wishard, Dr. Paden, Rev. T. C. Iliff and Charley Owen would be out of jobs. The Tribune must think its readers have been bereft of their reasoning powers to drink in the slop that it is daily feeding them. Here is a specimen in the "Peet and Polygamy editorial." "If there were no polygamy in Utah, there would be no story about polygamy to retard the material progress of this commonwealth. If there were no political dictation by the hierarchy there would be no story to that effect. If there were no monopolistic commercialism by means of tithe funds, no report of such things would be in circulation." In other words, if there had not been a great volcano west of Salt Lake belching fire, smoke and lava, illuminating the whole intermountain country at night, filling the whole Salt Lake valley with hot sulphurous fumes and terrorizing the people all the newspapers of the country would not have given so glowing accounts of it. This story was invented here in 1897, and published generally. Senator Smoot must have had from two to five wives or the Revs. John S. Leilich, Duncan J. McMillan, Maria Weed, Dr. Sarah Jane Elliott, Theresa Stalher and hundreds of others, and the eastern newspapers would not have said so. Every child of a good Mormon must have taken an oath of vengeance against all the Gentiles of this coun-

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